This decision of assigning the work to these agencies and subsequent withdrawal from these agencies was taken at the level of Chairman. These escalation in cost is mostly national in the sense that the money available for construction in the KVS did not generally lapse in this period but was used on other works which as a result got expedited. As far as cases of infructuous expenditure are concerned, in the case relating to construction of a tube-well in Delhi, the CAG has faulted the construction agency *i.e.* CPWD. In other two cases relating to expenditure incurred on preparing the designs for Kendriya Vidyalaya at Patna and Jamalpur, part of the expenditure incurred has been made use of in the construction subsequently made by the CPWD and they have given a rebate of Rs. 63,400 on that account to the KVS. Thus no particular official of the KVS has been found responsible for escalation in cost or infructuous expenditure. There is no question, therefore, of taking Departmental action against any official.

The KVS has initiated action for computerising the information regarding construction works to allow for close monitoring so that any delay or hold up of works taking place is detected immediately and action taken in time. The construction agencies which could not complete the works assigned to them in time are no longer being assigned fresh construction works.

**Purchases in National Museum, Delhi**

163. SHRIMATI KRISHNA KAUL. Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that purchases in National Museum, Delhi are generally made from one single company manufacturing an item without inviting tenders;

(b) if so, the name of the company from which items like fans, coolers and other equipment were purchased during last years; and

(c) the quantity and value of such goods purchased for the same period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Rajya Sabha.

**Physical verification of Antique in National Museum, Delhi**

164. SHRIMATI KRISHNA KAUL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that physical verification of antiques in different sections of National Museum, Delhi has not been carried out periodically as required under the rules?

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) when was the last physical verification carried out there;

(d) whether any antique has been found to be missing from the Museum and sold to other countries; and

(e) if so, what steps Government are taking in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) to (e) Physical verification of antiquities is carried out in the National Museum as a continuous process. No antique has been found missing during verification. However, separately, 'Golconda Rumal' has been reported missing. The loss of the Rumal is under investigation. That the Rumal is missing from the National Museum has been notified to the Art Dealers Association, USA and also to

other museums of the world alongwith a photograph of the Rumal.

**Aircraft in place of Kanishka**

165. SHRIMATI KRISHNA KAUL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 1533 given in the Rajya Sabha on 19th November, 1983 and to state whether Air India has purchased new aircraft as replacement for 'Kanishka which crashed in June, 1985, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): Government have approved the proprosal of Air India to purchase a Boeing 747—200 aircraft from M/s. Singapore Airlines, as replacement aircraft for "Emperor Kanishka" at an estimated cost of US $53.130 million.

**Mobile Telephone in Bombay and Delhi**

166. SHRIMATI SUDHA VIJAY JOSHI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Mahanagar Telephones Nigam Ltd., is proposing to introduce mobile telephone facility to its subscribers at Bombay and Delhi;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) when the scheme would become operational?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A mobile telephone service was introduced in Delhi on 31-12-85 and 77 subscribers are already working Improved version of Cellular mobile radio system is proposed to be introduced in Bombay in 1987-88 with an initial capacity of 1200 lines. It will be augmented to 5,000 lines later.

**Use of battery powered locomotives by Railways**

167. SHRIMATI SUDHA VIJAY JOSHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways propose to use battery powered locomotives on narrow gauge section of the railways; and

(b) if so, what would be the likely improvement in efficiency and costs per km.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) It is proposed to carry out trials on one Section with three battery powered locomotives.

(b) Saving in operation cost per ton km. is estimated to be about 20 per cent *vis-a-vis* steam locomotives

**Non-Implementation of New Education Policy by the States**

168. SHRIMATI SUDHA VIJAY JOSHI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of State Governments have not constituted Cabinet sub-Committee for the purpose of co-ordination and monitoring of the progress regarding the New Education Policy;

(b) if so, what steps Governments propose to take in this regard; and

(c) the progress made by the States in 1986-87 regarding implementation of the New Education Policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) Excepting three all other States have constituted Cabinet sub-Committees.

(b) The three States have been requested to expedite the setting up of the Committees.